



U.S. Army Garrison Brussels Commander Lt. Col. Patrick J. Kilroy (center) and Spc. Charles Fridline (right) present the "2015 Vision Plan" to Commanding General U.S. Army, Europe and 7th Army and Commander Allied Land Component Commander Gen. David D. McKiernan (left) and Installation Management Command European Regional Director Russell B. Hall.  
Photo by: Isabelle Gillet

## ***IMCOM EUROPE Regional Director and USAREUR Commander look at USAG Brussels 'quality of life'***

BRUSSELS, Belgium - Quality of life issues for Soldiers, civilian employees and their families receive command emphasis.

That is why the Commanding General U.S. Army, Europe and 7th Army and Commander Allied Land Component Commander Gen. David D. McKiernan visited U.S. Army Garrison Brussels March 2, with Installation Management Command European Regional Director Russell B. Hall.

"We wanted to get a look at the needs of the garrison in person," McKiernan said. "Our visit will allow us to take the pulse of the community and address quality of life issues."

With units returning stateside and installations closing in Europe, McKiernan asked those enduring installations to cross-level with closing facilities to transfer needed equipment where it can improve a community's quality of life.

In addition to a tour of the garrison's facilities, McKiernan and Hall had a working lunch with 30 spouses representing the Family Readiness Group, the NATO Spouses' Group, and other representatives from the diverse communities USAG Brussels serves.

"I try to visit one garrison a month. It's my honor to visit your community today," he told those gathered for the luncheon. "I see you are only one deep in a lot of positions and that one deep puts out so much effort.

"I can see the commitment of your paid employees," he said. "They, along with spouses and volunteers have 99 percent of their hearts and minds wanting to make the community better."

Citing that there is always ways to improve the quality of life for a community, his ultimate question to the community was, "Is Brussels a good place to work?"

The community's response focused primarily on family issues such as accessing SHAPE in Casteau, Belgium to watch youth sporting events and expanding Army and Air Force Exchange Shoppette's supplies to meet the needs of the entire community.

Many in the group expressed a desire for greater after-hours access by youth to Brussels American School facilities. "Strong leadership and communication will solve most problems," he said. "Mr. Hall and I will discuss your concerns when we visit the school later today."

*Story by: By J.D. Hardesty  
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